

The Times-Dispatch

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TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1906.

A well governed mind learns in time
to find pleasure in nothing but the
true and just.
—Ariel.

The Gas Lease Matter.

The Evening Journal in a recent editorial apparently implied, by a hypothetical question, a fraudulent purpose to the owner of The Times-Dispatch in concealing a supposed interest in the proposed lease of the city gas works.

The relations between the owner of The Times-Dispatch and the owners and editor of the Journal were such as almost to forbid the idea that anything unfriendly was meant, and, therefore, the Evening Journal was politely queried in respect to the purpose of its hypothetical case. No doubt, as to what the reply would be was felt by The Times-Dispatch, because the character of the owner of The Times-Dispatch was fully known to at least one of the owners of the Journal, Mr. A. R. Holderby, Jr., who, for fifteen years had been in the most trusted and confidential relations with him, and it was deemed impossible that he could permit any such reproach to remain.

The editor of the Journal, has, however, by evasion failed to deny that it was his purpose—recklessly and without knowledge of the facts—to bedraggle with the odium properly attaching to underhand methods, the owner of The Times-Dispatch.

Considering all the circumstances, we confess we were amazed at the cold-blooded cynicism of the paper. It is, however, useful to us to learn on what lines our evening contemporary is being run, as we had entirely misconstrued the spirit of its management. It is not necessary for us to say to the Virginia public that the Journal's charge is utterly unfounded and absurd, and so we dismiss the subject and the Journal from further consideration.

The Mob Spirit.

The mob spirit is rampant in the city of Springfield, Mo. Three negroes have been lynched, the jail has been destroyed, the law trampled under foot, and the authorities defied. As a result, there is war to the knife between the whites and blacks, and the Governor has been compelled to send troops to the scene to prevent a clash between the races.

One of the most significant items in the report printed in yesterday's Times-Dispatch is that "many from the farming regions caught the mob spirit." The mob spirit is always contagious, and when it breaks out it is apt to affect the good citizens, as well as the bad. One lynching tends to demoralize the whole community.

Again, if Judge Lynch's court were always orderly and just, and proceeded according to the calm and deliberate methods of the established court, something might be said in its defense. But the mob is never calm; the mob is never deliberate, and the mob is rarely just. Its proceedings are in excitement and anger, in blood-thirstiness, in defiance of the laws of God and man, in defiance of the rights of individuals and in the spirit of revenge.

The Springfield mob did not give its victims any sort of a trial, but executed them forthwith, and it is said that the victims were innocent. The mob took no trouble to ascertain the facts. It had already condemned the men to death, and there was no appeal from its decision. Then, to show its utter contempt for the law, it demolished the jail.

What man is safe when the mob breaks loose and goes on the rampage?

Juvenile Criminals.

Judge Ben B. Lindsey, the famous judge of the Denver Juvenile Court, recently made a talk in New York about his work and his manner of dealing with youthful criminals. "It is not enough," said he at the start, "to try the child apart from adult criminals in a kind and humane manner," he says. "In the seven years since we have learned that we have got to use the same amount of brains and money and labor that we have brought to bear upon our elaborate criminal system to perfect a system for dealing with children in such a way as to prevent them from becoming criminals. To do this we have got to keep in mind our four principles—to correct the child without charging it with crime; to make parents and other citizens contributing to juvenile delinquency amenable to the law; to introduce a report system through which parents, teachers and employers may cooperate with the court, and to provide a separate building for all juvenile court business."

Judge Lindsey thinks that one of the fundamental mistakes made in dealing with this class of criminals is that the laws do not permit the courts to take a child into custody until he has broken a law and then in order to correct him they have to bring him into court, prefer a charge against him and try him for misdemeanor. The Colorado law permits the court to take a child into custody if he enters a condition tending toward delinquency and by doing so the courts are enabled to correct him before he has become a confirmed delinquent. "We have just as much jurisdiction," said he, "over a boy whom we hear to be hang-

ing around a saloon as we have over a boy who has been arrested for being drunk and disorderly. We are not required to give him a formal trial. I hold court all over the city of Denver. I am just as likely to hear a boy's case sitting on a soap box in the 'newsies' alley," as in my private chambers and a great deal more likely than in the public court rooms."

If a plan is to get the confidence of the boy and make him understand that the judge does not wish to punish him, but to help him, and that in order to do so the judge must know the truth, and the whole truth; must know all about his life, the troubles and difficulties and the reasons for his delinquency. Judge Lindsey makes it a point never to allow a boy to get away with a lie, and he declares that no boy will be persistent in lying if you will let him see that you are with him and not against him; that you sympathize with his trouble and that your only object is to do the square thing by him. He impresses upon the boy that the crime hurts him worse than it hurts the person against whom it is committed; that crime does not pay and that it is better for the boy himself to be square.

We have not the space to go further into details, but the underlying purpose of his system is to prevent the lad from committing crime rather than to punish him after the crime has been committed. To that end all parents as well as outsiders are; under the Colorado law, held to strict account, and punished severely if in any way they tempt a child to do wrong. But in spite of all effort, the child does go wrong, then it is the special concern, of course, to take him in hand in the kindest way and reclaim him.

It is a grand work. If only we can prevent the youth from becoming criminals, the adults will take care of themselves.

The Case of Dr. Crapsey.

In Batavia, N. Y., to-day begins what promises to be one of the most interesting and important heresy trials in the history of the Protestant Episcopal Church. A trial court of five clergymen meets to pass upon the question whether or not the Rev. Dr. Algernon S. Crapsey, rector of an influential church in Rochester, has been guilty of violating his ordination vows. The Standing Committee of the diocese, who preferred the charges, is to appear as plaintiff, and both sides will be represented by able counsel.

Dr. Crapsey is specifically charged with having denied these doctrines of the Episcopal Church:

That Jesus Christ is God, the Saviour of the world; that He was conceived by the Holy Ghost, and that He was born of a virgin.

The doctrine of the Holy Trinity.

That Christ rose from the dead in the bodily sense.

Passages are also quoted from his sermons and from his book, "Politics and Religion," to show that his teachings have in other respects been opposed to those of the Church. In one oft-quoted passage, Dr. Crapsey has written: "The founder of Christianity . . . is in all things like as we are, born as we are born, dying as we die, and both in life and death in the keeping of that same divine power."

There is no allegation against the accused clergyman's piety or his religious devoutness. On the contrary, it is well known that through twenty-six years of excellent work he has built up a poor mission into an uncommonly strong parish. Nor is it urged that he has been preaching things that are not true. The opportunity to demonstrate the truth of his doctrine from the Scriptures, which he desires, is indeed, to be denied him. The whole issue of the trial is to hang simply upon whether or not his teachings are in conflict with those of the church.

The outcome of this trial will be watched with intense interest. Even among those not disposed to accept liberal religious views, the preponderance of sympathy seems to lie with the accused clergyman. For one thing, he is no broader than many another divine whom no one has ever thought of dubbing heretic. It merely happens that his doctrine is ruled by a bishop, who is an insistent stickler for strict orthodoxy and something of a martinet for discipline. Further, the Episcopal Church has always been proud of its broadness, and has drawn strength from it. Lastly, no doubt there is a feeling that a little latitude for individual thinking may well be allowed to a man whose sincerity, faith and ability for splendid service have been so markedly demonstrated.

The attitude of the Christian Church toward the whole current of new thought, which greater scientific knowledge has injected into humanity's interpretation of its creeds, is a question of tremendous and far-reaching importance. This is really the point to be defined in the trial of Dr. Crapsey. It will strike the layman as odd that a case of such large consequence is entrusted to a clerical court drawn from a single diocese, not one of the members of which, it may be, particularly qualified to pass upon it.

Mr. Roosevelt and His New Associates.

Some President Roosevelt's apologists would have it appear that in referring to great fortunes, in his muck rake speech, he merely suggested the advisability of an inheritance tax. Had that been all, the suggestion would have caused little comment, for England and some of the States of the Union impose such a tax; and even in Virginia we have had for more than fifty years a collateral inheritance tax.

But Mr. Roosevelt's suggestion goes much farther than this. He was speaking of the danger of great fortunes. "It is pertinent to this people," said he, "to grapple with the problems connected with the amassing of enormous fortunes, and the use of those fortunes, both corporate and individual, in business." And it was after that introduction that he said:

"As a matter of personal conviction, and without pretending to discuss the details or formulate the system, I feel that we shall ultimately have to consider the adoption of some such scheme as that of a progressive tax on all fortunes, beyond a certain amount, either given in

life or devised or bequeathed upon death to any individual—a tax so framed as to put it out of the power of the owner of one of these enormous fortunes to hand on more than a certain amount to any one individual, the tax, of course, to be imposed by the national, and not the State, government. Such taxation should, of course, be aimed merely at the inheritance or transmission in their entirety of those fortunes swollen beyond all healthy limits."

The meaning is that great fortunes should be dissipated at the death of the owner; that the Federal government should put a limit upon the amount of money a man may bequeath, and that the excess should be confiscated. But, if that sort of limitation is once begun, where will it end? Who is to determine what a "swollen fortune" is and what is a "healthy limit," and if the Federal government may limit the amount of money a man may bequeath, why may it not limit the amount he may accumulate and possess? And if the limit be fixed by one political party at ten millions, why may not another party, seeking votes, place the limit at five millions, and still another at one million?

The idea is thoroughly Socialist. In 1900 the platform of the People's Party demanded "a graduated income and inheritance tax, to the end that aggregated wealth shall bear its just proportion of taxation."

In the same year the Middle-of-the-Road Populists demanded "the levy and collection of a graduated tax on incomes and inheritances, and a constitutional amendment to secure the same, if necessary."

In 1904 the Socialist Party, which nominated Eugene Debs, pledged itself to work for the "graduated taxation of incomes, inheritances, franchises and land values."

"This goes to show," as we said in yesterday's comments, that Mr. Roosevelt, having broken away from his Republican moorings, is now drifting rapidly toward Socialism.

Municipal Operation—Some Consequences.

We need not go to England to study municipal operation. We have all the experience necessary right here in our own city to satisfy even a wayfaring man of some insuperable objections to our present system.

No private business could live, much less prosper, if its management was practically without authority, was frequently changed, and was, in the first instance, not selected from any special fitness. Yet, this is the system under which we operate our public utilities. The gas works, for example, would not have been run for a week as they were for thirty years, if any individual citizen had been authorized and empowered to operate that business for his own private gain. This does not imply corrupt management on the part of the city—rather, the incompetence which has characterized our dealings with our municipal monopolies is the inevitable consequence of divided responsibility and lack of intelligent public interest.

This results always in useless cost and avoidable loss. Because all the public suffers together in "discomfort," wasted money and inefficient service, the sum of the loss to the city is not lessened. There are occasions when even this condition is better than a constant oppression of the people, or a continuous effort to debauch its Council by a private corporation. But there is no need to tolerate either condition. We admire Mayor McCarthy as a citizen and an official. Our feelings for him, however, do not blind us to the fact that he would be more valuable, even if less popular, were he to save some of his perfunctory neglect of the gas works and prevent their consequences for the last ten years or more, and have fewer explosives for those who offer for a consideration to give better service at less cost.

Such a speech as that of Saturday evening last from the Mayor does not help to better the service. If he really wants to assist, let him show the people how to remedy the errors of the past management of the gas works and prevent their recurrence.

The Times-Dispatch, we think, is a little too severe on Pontius Pilate. He was only an instrument—a necessary instrument—in the great plan of salvation, and that he did his part according to the fore-ordained purpose of the Divine will seems hardly just cause for censure. How can the Times-Dispatch know that the selection of Pontius Pilate as an agent in the great scheme of a world's redemption was not a merciful manifestation of Providence to save him from the penalty of the crimes he had already committed?—Petersburg Index-Appel.

We do not know. Does the Index-Appel? But we believe that no plan of a just and loving Providence would require a judge to become a coward. When a man goes wrong of his own accord as in the case of Pilate it only shows that in scope of history there is a place even for the graft of a practical politician.

When the Springfield lynching fever comes East and strikes Massachusetts, the esteemed Springfield Republican will be as interesting reading as you could find in a day's walk.

The Heraldry Court of England has established beyond peradventure that Mrs. George Gould's ancestry runs back to the twelfth century. The transaction was a little expensive, of course.

If Kingdon Gould should ever be attacked again by his impolite colleague.

If you are run-down or debilitated the Bitters will build up and strengthen the entire system. It also cures Poor Appetite, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Heartburn, Constipation, or Malaria.

COD LIVER OIL.

It almost makes you sick to think of it, but it isn't nearly as bad as it is used to be. The improved method of refining it makes it much easier to take, and when made into Scott's Emulsion almost every one can take it. Most children like it and all children that are not robust are benefited by it. When the doctor says "Take cod liver oil," he generally means Scott's Emulsion; ask him if he doesn't. They know it is more easily digested and better than the plain oil.

SCOTT & BOWNE, 409 Pearl St., New York.

mates, he can defend himself nicely with his new coat-of-arms.

Thanks are due to President Roosevelt for the thoroughness with which he has solved the vexing question as to what we are to do with our ex-Rough Riders.

One consolation about a telephone strike is that it will do away temporarily with the deadly "Busy now" cry.

All this publicity for his Man with the Muck Rake was certainly never anticipated by the late Mr. Bunyan.

Dowle is willing to quit for \$100,000. We know of several other good men who also would.

There's evidently more in a name than Will Shakespeare suspected. Take Springfield for instance.

It is less often contended nowadays that Judge Lynch is a typical Southern gentleman.

The end of the rate bill is said to be "in sight." No one seems to know which end.

Rhymes for To-Day

"I Promised Not to, But"—

When Doris tells me gossip of the sort that plagues the ear,
She nearly always ends up with a—
"Well!"
Now isn't that just killing, a! exciting,
even thrilling?
Oh, by the way, I promised not to tell."

When Doris tells me gossip that she vowed she'd never breathe,
She breaks her little word—and knows it well,
But she doesn't seem to bother, hoping
it will go no farther
If she adds: "Oh, my! she told me not to tell."

When Doris tells me gossip, I perceive
that honor's dead,
And veracity the merest idle sell;
And decide against confiding anything
she has to do with telling
To a girl who guarantees she'll never tell.

—H. S. H.

Merely Joking.

Needed Reform.—"I am in favor of spelling reform." "Glad to hear it. Come around and give my stenographer a few points, won't you?"—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Frayed.—"Why do you avoid that bulldog?" asked Tired Tiffins, sincerely. "Fraid?" "Not personally," answered Precise Perkins, "but my garments are sufficiently so."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

When Fighting Begins.—"What's the new novel about?" "It's a story of love and war." "Ah, it follows the hero and heroine into their married life, eh?"—Houston Chronicle.

His Little Joke.—"Slow work converting the Algerians, isn't it?" asked the tourist. "Yes," replied the missionary, "but we are winning them over hour by hour." "And Dey by Dey,"—Exchange.

Ben's Roll.—Franklin was walking down a Philadelphia thoroughfare with his famous roll. "It ain't a very valuable roll," murmured Franklin. "Still I'm glad that Philly isn't a hold-up town." History never makes mistakes in the stage setting.—Houston Chronicle.

He Was Busy.—Nozzy: "Never saw so many idle men as there are around here, especially down at the next corner." "You saw half a dozen of them there to-day who just stood around and did nothing for two or three hours." Acum: "How do you know that?" Nozzy: "How do I know? I just stood and watched them."—Philadelphia Press.

Giraffes on the Line.

There has been a temporary interruption in the telegraph service on the Victoria Falls line. It appears that a herd of giraffes became entangled by their necks in the wires at Inyanga, 125 miles from Bulawayo, and pulled about a mile down, breaking three of the iron poles. The telegraph linemen were, fortunately, who just stood around and did nothing for two or three hours. Acum: "How do you know that?" Nozzy: "How do I know? I just stood and watched them."—Philadelphia Press.

Hounds and Fox Imprisoned for Fifty Hours.

A curious incident in connection with the Tipperary fox hunt is related. Two of the pack went to ground with a fox in a deep culvert and were imprisoned for fifty hours. They were found thirty feet below the surface completely exhausted and badly injured. One died soon afterwards. The fox was discovered, perched on the ledge just out of reach of the hounds and at once bolted on receiving his liberty.—From the London Telegraph.

Notetels.

Only six persons in 1,000 live to be seventy-five years old.
New York consumes ten tons of salt daily.
From the maiden hair fern a palatable tea is brewed.
White horses are not used in warfare because they make too good a target.
If the atmosphere did not warm the earth like a blanket, the temperature everywhere would be 90 degrees below zero.

Current Opinion

The Muck Rake.

The President once more illustrates his alertness to public dangers in his denunciation of "the man with the muck rake"—the man who can look no way but downward, but fixes his eye only on what is vile and debasing. The muck rake is a useful instrument. It is most necessary that we recognize what is vile and that we scrape it up, however offensive the process may be. But the man who never does anything else, "who never thinks or speaks or writes save of his feats with the muck rake," becomes, as the President well says, "not an incentive to good, but one of the most potent sources of evil." He obscures the distinction between the evil and the good; he clouds the clear stream of public judgment by his indiscriminate denunciation; he deadens the public sensibility by his constant upbraiding, and thus becomes an offense to honest citizens and a shielded defense to criminals.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Gaynor and Greene.

The steady pursuit of this pair of rogues by the government and the final success of the prosecution have shown how idle is the charge that men of wealth and influence may commit crimes without danger of punishment. Justice is not rich, but there is nothing in the history of the administration of the Federal laws to support the opinion that place or power or riches can save a man from the consequences of his legal acts, and the same is true of the justice of the States. Gaynor and Greene were guilty of crimes of a nature peculiarly easy to settle by compromise and the payment of money; they possessed political power and commanded great wealth; and yet they found the government relentless in its pursuit. Had they been poor, in pocket and in friends, their treatment would have been no more severe and no less fair.

The case of Gaynor and Greene furnishes no evidence to support the charges of those who yelp and yow for the United States is a "rich man's country."—New York Sun.

Gold Imports and the Treasury.

Secretary Shaw yesterday gave the financial community a surprise in the statement that he had within the last two or three days deposited twelve millions of Treasury funds with two city banks to enable them to import gold and as security for the acceptance of such banks, stipulating that the money should be returned when the gold arrived from Europe.

At the end of September, 1902, in a period of extended credit and monetary stringency, Mr. Shaw announced that he would accept State, city or other good bonds in substitution for government bonds then in the Treasury to secure public deposits, provided the banks thus withdrawing the "government" money at once take out of circulation such bonds and as security for the acceptance of such banks, stipulating that the money should be returned when the gold arrived from Europe.

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